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ABSTRACT

A community service and continuing education program in Weatherford, Oklahoma was developed primarily for retired or semi-retired persons over 55 years of age. Purposes of the program, partially funded by Title 1 Higher Education Act of 1965, were: (1) to assist senior citizens in making better use of their leisure time, (2) to impart or improve skills which the senior citizens might use to supplement their income. The program which was administered by Southwestern State College consisted of approximately 15 seminars and/or activities of interest in areas of arts and crafts, recreation, and health. Presentations were scheduled on-campus, in a nursing home, and in senior citizens' homes via cable television. The 343 enrollees preferred skill-oriented courses over knowledge-oriented courses. The concentrated effort of community service agencies, civic leaders, and the academic institution was vital to program success. It was found to be important that senior citizens identify with the program in an active role of planning and conducting the program. Participants did not have the need to attain academic degrees; preference was for an opportunity to leisurely pursue subjects of their own choice. Two-thirds of the document consists of appendixes of enrollment, questionnaire, and evaluation material. (EA)

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SENIOR CITIZENS DESIRE TO CONTINUE LEARNING

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Dr. Ted Guffy

CE003220

Senior Citizens Desire to Continue Learning

By Dr. Ted Guffy and Capt. Kerry Hines

There was a time, during the early years of American society, when the senior citizens of a community were held in high esteem They retained this position of prominence so long as they represented society's repository of knowledge. However, as American society became more pragramatic and technically oriented, and as life expectancy increased, there was a corresponding increase in the numbers of senior citizens and they were relegated to roles of nonproductivity and insignificance. Through the improvidence of American society, its senior citizens became a burden on society

American society has long recognized the need for special programs for selected groups. It is natural that a dynamic, mobile society such as the American one would emphasize youth in these special programs. Yet, this is against the American ideals of democratization and continuation of education. Only recently have the aged gained consideration as one of the select groups which deserved special programs. Much of this emphasis has been the outgrowth of the study of the President's Commission of Higher Education (1947). The initial efforts in continuing adult education and other programs for the elderly sector of society were concentrated in the larger urban areas. These urban programs provided the impetus to extend similar benefits to rural areas where suitable institutions existed to administer the programs.

Weatherford, Oklahoma and the surrounding communities were the recipients of a community service and continuing education program jointly funded by Southwestern State College and Title I of the

Higher Education Act of 1965. The program was administered by the Division of Teacher Education and Psychology of Southwestern State College. This was the first such program for the community which has a relatively large number of senior citizens. These senior citizens are primarily retired persons over 55 years of age. They had been, in effect, "left out" because there had been no concentrated or coordinated effort to establish educational or other programs specifically designed for them. This program had a two-fold purpose: first, to assist the senior citizens in making better use of their leisure time, and secondly, to impart or improve skills which the senior citizens might use to supplement their income.

PROCEDURE: A grant to initiate the program was secured from funds established by Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965. Application for the grant was made to the Community Services Program, Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. The grant was supplemented by college funding. Senior citizens' groups were canvassed for course suggestions and to generate senior citizen involvement. The College Director of Public Relations issued news releases and provided continuous coverage to all area newspapers and other mass media. The project director explained the purpose and nature of the program before student, faculty, and civic groups. Further dissimination of information about the program was coordinated through ministers who published notices in church bulletins and announced the courses during services.

As originally conceived, the program would include approximately 15 seminars and/or activities of interest to adults in the areas of arts and crafts, discussion groups, and recreational and

health pursuits. Presentations were scheduled in college facilities, a nursing home, and in the senior citizens' homes via cable television. The latter was anticipated to considerably expand the target audience and supplement the on-campus sessions by televising selected regular classroom situations and some unique productions. Selected faculty, college students, and recognized community resource personnel provided the instruction and contact for all regular and televised sessions.

The taped productions were prepared each week and broadcast at least three times per week. Each production was 20-30 minutes in length. The schedule of broadcast was furnished to instructors of the senior citizens' courses so that they could advise class participants.

The first courses were scheduled to begin at the mid-point of the fall semester. Splitting the standard semester into two eight-weeks periods facilitated the offering of a greater variety and number of courses. Sessions were set for late afternoons and early evenings to better suit the transportation arrangements of participants. All courses were open to any retired or semi-retired persons or others who came with or brought a retired or semi-retired person and paid their own expenses. Participants could elect to take most courses for college credit if qualified for admission.

Publicity brochures (Appendix 1 & 2) were printed and given widest dissimination. These brochures included coupons for pre-enrollment. Final enrollment was conducted during each first class meeting, utilizing a large-type enrollment card (Appendix 3). Also, during the initial class sessions participants were requested to complete preliminary questionnaires (Appendix 4). These initial and

subsequent questionnaires (Appendix 5-7) were one of the evaluation tools employed to insure that the program meet the needs of the senior citizens. Instructors were requested to complete an end-of-course questionnaire (Appendix 8) to assist in the evaluation process. Continuous evaluation of the program was conducted by the project director

RESULTS: The response to the senior citizens' education program was outstanding. The college faculty became actively involved, with numerous individuals and departments proposing courses and/or indicating a desire to participate in some aspect of the program. Community resource personnel, like Mr. Carl Wisk of the Clinton, Oklahoma, Social Security Office and Mr. Alton Patrick of the Oklahoma State Extension Service, willingly donated their time to present material in their respective area of specialization. Indicative of the enthusiasm and support among the community was the free cable service offered by the Oklahoma Cable System, Inc. to the senior citizens desiring to view the televised productions. The Weatherford Kiwanis Club indicated their support by organizing a shuttle service to transport any senior citizens unable to secure transportation for the courses. Senior citizens were provided free access to the facilities of the Weatherford Municipal Golf Course for an introductory course in golf.

The most favorable response came from the senior citizens themselves. Enrollment in the first block of courses, including a course presented in a nursing home, was 118. One hundred enrolled in courses offered the first eight-weeks period of the Spring 1974 semester, 80 for the second eight-weeks period, and 45 for the summer session. The majority of the 343 total enrollees were

retired persons over 55 years of age Initially, the preponderance of the participants attracted to the courses were females with college or advanced degrees As the program progressed, however, the participants became more representative of the senior citizens group, with a closer male/female ratio and a diversity of educational levels

Survey results and enrollment statistics indicated a strong preference among the participants for skill-oriented courses over knowledge-oriented courses For example, participants indicated that they were avid readers and recognized the self-educational benefits of reading, yet the interest in a reading improvement course was marginal When each group was surveyed during enrollment concerning their reasons for enrolling in senior citizens' courses, the majority of the participants indicated they had enrolled as an enjoyable pastime End-of-course surveys indicated a definite change in attitude with the majority selecting a gain in skill or knowledge as their major benefit from the course, or courses, they had taken The second most important benefit was the opportunity to exchange ideas with other senior citizens. Indicative of the appeal which the program held for senior citizens was the willingness of a majority of the participants to pay regular tuition rates if, by necessity, the courses could only be offered on a charge basis.

Attempts to measure the appeal of the televised productions were inconclusive Many course participants stated that they watched and benefited from the televised programs However, only a limited number of non-enrolled viewers indicated that they watched the productions even though materials lists for most courses were made

available upon request

Only a small number of the participants elected to enroll in the courses for credit Responses on both instructor and participant surveys were strongly in favor of conducting the courses strictly on a non-credit basis

Shortfalls in the program appeared to be the result of the enthusiasm generated among the senior citizens There were consistent demands voiced for more course offerings, involvement of a greater number of senior citizens, and opportunities to participate in cultural improvement activities

CONCLUSIONS: The implementation of a successful senior citizens' education program requires a concentrated effort by all community service agencies, civic leaders and government and the academic institution hosting the program Most important, the senior citizens must identify with the program, not just as passive participants, but in the active role of planning and conducting the program. Among the senior citizens of most communities there will be numerous individuals who have valuable skills that they will willingly employ toward the administration and instruction of courses. The program must fill the needs and desires of the senior citizens and extensive surveys are one method of developing this information

A meaningful and successful senior citizens' education program contains an array of tangible and intangible benefits for the institution, the community, and particularly the senior citizens themselves The institution which conducts such a program can boost its enrollment figures directly from the senior citizen participants, and ultimately from the good will and favorable image created by the concern it displays for the welfare of the community. The

two-year junior and community colleges already recognize these benefits

Senior academic institutions might well profit from the experience of their junior counterparts and initiate and/or expand community service programs such as senior citizen education programs. The inherent difficulty among the senior institutions is the willingness to break from inflexible traditions that demand structured, degree-producing curricular and strong academic challenges in any courses offered Senior citizens do not have the need to attain academic degrees - many have already attained degrees and most have already had a full career in their chosen endeavor. Many appear somewhat unsure of their academic ability and hesitate to tackle an unknown academic challenge. They prefer the opportunity to leisurely pursue subjects of their own choosing which provide ample occasions to interact with other senior citizens The common role of all higher education institutions is to meet the needs of their clientele. In the past the emphasis has been on the needs of the "career" or "job" oriented students Now, we must recognize the diversity of our clientele and provide viable programs for those who want to continue their education after they have already completed their careers or working lives

APPENDIX 1

Courses for Senior Citizens

Fall Semester
1973

Place Stamp Here

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Dr. Ted Guffy
Division of Teacher Education
Southwestern State College
Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096

PROPOSED COURSES

FOR

SPRING SEMESTER 1974

Small Appliance Repair
Beginning Bridge
Creative Writing
Knitting
Cake Decorating
Estate Planning
Arts and Crafts II
Arm Chair Travel
Teacher Aid Training
Reading Improvement

COURSES FOR

SENIOR CITIZENS

11

FALL SEMESTER

1973

Southwestern State College

Weatherford, Oklahoma

GENERAL INFORMATION

Under a grant from the Oklahoma State Board of Regents for Higher Education a program of courses is being offered at Southwestern State College for the Fall Semester, specifically designed to meet the needs and interests of retired and semi-retired people. These courses may be taken for college credit or non-credit. Persons wanting credit must qualify for admission to Southwestern State and pay an enrollment fee of $13.00 per credit hour. Application must be made through the registrar at the college.

Many of the on-campus programs will be taped for playback over Weatherford cable TV (Channel 10) at a later time. The LVO Cable Station has offered to make special provisions for Senior Citizens desiring to view the televised sessions. For more information call 772-3383. Most necessary supplies will be furnished for each class. Therefore, expense for participants will be kept at a minimum.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any and all retired and semi-retired citizens are eligible to attend these classes. Those not meeting this qualification may become eligible by arranging to come with or by bringing a retired or semi-retired person.

COURSE OFFERINGS

1. ARTS AND CRAFTS -- Several crafts ideas will be explored in this class, as well as painting techniques. Students will work with oils, decoupage, candlemaking, and Christmas decorating ideas. The class will be limited to twenty students, and enrollment will be on a first-come-first-serve basis.

SWSC Campus, Room Art 205
Tuesdays, October 16, 23, 30
November 6, 13, 20, 27
December 4
Mr. Jim Terrell
4:00-5:45 p.m.

2. PHOTOGRAPHY -- This course involves active participation in activities involving composition of photographs, operation of various types of cameras, special techniques in producing better pictures, and organization and storage of photographs and photographic programs. The course will be laboratory oriented, giving full treatment of "How to Take Better Pictures Through Improved Techniques," with "hands on" experience.

SWSC Campus, Room Education 112
Wednesdays, October 17, 24, 31
November 7, 14, 21, 28
December 5
Mr. John Ludrick
4:00-5:45 p.m.

3. SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE EDUCATION -- This course is designed to inform participants about Social Security and Medicare benefits. This offering will be conducted by representatives of the Social Security office in Clinton. (No college credit available.)

Weatherford Nursing Home, 1001 North 7th
Wednesdays, October 17, 24, 31
10:00-11:00 a.m.

4. WOODWORKING -- This course will provide opportunity for those who wish to build small wood projects, to do wood turning on lathes, do wood sculpture or carving, and small antique refinishing. Class size will be limited to 12 people.

SWSC Campus, Industrial Arts Building
Tuesdays, October 16, 23, 30
November 6, 13, 20, 27
December 4
Mr. Alvin Adams
4:00-5:45 p.m.

5. CROCHETING -- This course will offer the basics of crocheting for beginners and the novice.

SWSC Campus, Room Education 107
Wednesdays, October 17, 24, 31
November 7, 14, 21, 28
December 5
Mrs. Nadine Kaiser
4:00-5:45 p.m.

Cut Here

NAME _____ AGE (check one) Under 50 _____

Over 50 _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ COLLEGE CREDIT _____ yes _____ no

Check below the courses you wish to enroll in for the Fall Semester:

_____ #1 ARTS AND CRAFTS

_____ #2 PHOTOGRAPHY

_____ #3 SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE

_____ #4 WOODWORKING

_____ #5 CROCHETING

APPENDIX 2

Courses for Senior Citizens

Spring Semester
1974

Place Stamp Here

Dr. Ted Guffy
Division of Teacher Education
Southwestern State College
Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096

3. CREATIVE WRITING– The student will write the type of creative expression he favors, i.e. poetry, stories, anecdotes, or non-fiction magazine features. Each work will be evaluated during class discussion. 20 student limit.

SWSC Campus, Education 105

Wednesdays, March 20 to May 8

Ted Pyle
4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

4. READING IMPROVEMENT– This course is designed to promote the mutual development of reading speed and comprehension. Topics: reading better and faster, reading for a main idea, and training your perception and other areas. 20 students only.

SWSC Campus, Education 107

Wednesdays, March 20 to May 8

Ray Pharr
4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

5. BRIDGE– . Lessons are designed for beginners and will consist of counting points, opening bridge bids, rebids by the opening bidder, and slam bidding. There will be a period of instruction and a period of board play at each session. 16 students only.

SWSC Campus, Art 205

Thursdays, March 21 to May 9

Charlotte Lam
4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

6. GOLF– Instruction and practice covering the basic fundamentals of the game. Equipment and balls will be furnished. Local facilities will be used.

SWSC Campus, H&PE Building 101

Thursdays, March 21 to May 9

L. J. Van Horn
2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Special Course

SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE– This course is designed to inform students about Social Security and Medicare benefits.

SWSC Campus

Wednesdays- specific dates to be announced

Carl Wisk
10:00 a.m.

COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

14

SPRING SEMESTER

1974

Southwestern State College

Weatherford, Oklahoma

GENERAL INFORMATION

Under a grant from the Oklahoma State Board of Regents for Higher Education a program of courses is being offered at Southwestern State College for the Spring semester, specifically designed to meet the needs and interests of retired and semi-retired people. These courses may be taken for college credit or non-credit. Persons wanting college credit must qualify for admission to Southwestern State and pay an enrollment fee of $13.00 per credit hour.

Many of the on-campus programs will be taped for playback over Weatherford cable TV (Channel 10) at a later time. The LVO cable station has offered to make special provisions to Senior Citizens desiring to view the taped and televised sessions. For more information call 772-3383.

Most necessary supplies will be furnished for each class and expense for participants will be kept at a minimum.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Any and all retired and semiretired persons are eligible to attend these classes. Those not meeting these qualifications may become eligible by arranging to come with or by bringing a retired person, and will be responsible for all materials for the class.

COURSE OFFERINGS

1st 8 Weeks–

1. CAKE DECORATING – This course will include the basics of basic borders, roses, sugar molding and color techniques. (Limited to twenty students)

SWSC Campus, Old Science 212
Tuesdays, January 15 to March 5
Meritta Miller 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

2. CROCHETING– This course will offer the basics of crocheting for beginners and the novice. Not open to students who have taken the previous crocheting course. (Limited to twenty students)

SWSC Campus, Education 107
Tuesdays, January 15 to March 5
Nadine Kaiser 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

3. ARTS AND CRAFTS I– Students will work with decoupage, candlemaking and seasonal decorating ideas. Not open to students who have taken the previous Arts and Crafts course. (Limited to twenty students)

SWSC Campus, Art 303
Wednesdays, January 16 to March 6
Jim Terrell 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

4. ARTS AND CRAFTS II– A continuation of the first course with emphasis on different areas of arts and crafts. (Limited to 20 Students)

SWSC Campus, Art 304
Wednesdays, January 16 to March 6
Leroy Schultz 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

5. ARM CHAIR TRAVEL– How to plan a travel experience both foreign and domestic. The ways and means of evaluation of a commercial travel agency, planning an itinerary, classes of hotels, passports, custom duties, foreign purchases and other items will be covered along with the sharing of travel experiences good and bad.

SWSC Campus, Education 107
Thursdays, January 17 to March 7
Cedric Crink 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

6. GROWING HOUSEPLANTS– An introduction to common and not-so-common houseplants. The student will learn techniques of germination and vegetative propogation of plants and caring for the plants

SWSC Campus, Arts and Sciences 206
Thursdays, January 17 to March 7
Bill Seibert 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

Special course:

ESTATE PLANNING– Topics: Interstate Distribution, Wills, probate procedure, estate and inheritance taxes, trusts and other tax-saving methods, real estate, and post-mortem estate planning.

SWSC Campus, Arts and Sciences 206
Wednesdays, January 15 to March 6
selected dates
Joe McMillin 9:00 a.m.

2nd 8 Weeks

1. KNITTING– This course will offer the basics of knitting for beginners and the novice. (Limited to twenty students)

SWSC Campus, Education 107
Tuesdays, March 19 to May 7
Nadine Kaiser 4:00 to 5:45 p.m.

2. LAWN AND SHRUB CARE– Topics: Lawn and weed control- Williams; Selection of trees and shrubs and pruning- Patrick; Diseases and insects- Cleveland; Pesticide safety- all above.

SWSC Campus, Arts and Sciences 109
Wednesdays, March 20, 27 and April 3, 10
Alton Patrick 10:00 to 11:45 a.m.

The enrollment blank:

NAME _____ AGE (check one) Under 50 _____ Over 50 _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ COLLEGE CREDIT _____ yes _____ no

Check below the courses you wish to enroll in for the Spring:

1st 8 Weeks
- Cake Decorating _____
- Crocheting _____
- Arts and Crafts I _____
- Arts and Crafts II _____
- Arm Chair Travel _____
- Growing Houseplants _____

2nd 8 Weeks
- Lawn and Shrub Care _____
- Knitting _____
- Creative Writing _____
- Improvement of Reading _____
- Golf _____
- Bridge _____

APPENDIX 3

Senior Citizen Enrollment Card

Senior Citizens' Enrollment Card

Date:_____

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____

Age: (check one)

_____Under 21

_____22 to 35

_____36 to 55

_____Over 55

Education Level: (check highest level)

_____Elementary

_____Junior High School

_____High School

_____College (no degree)

_____Baccalaureate

_____Graduate or Professional

What was your occupation? (Write below)

Course Name:_____

Do you want college credit? (check below

_____ yes _____ no Have you enrolled in Senior Citizens' courses at Southwestern State College before? yes___ no_

APPENDIX 4

Senior Citizen Questionnaire

EVALUATION FORM

NOTE: THESE QUESTIONS REPRESENT OUR REQUEST THAT YOU HELP US EVALUATE THIS PROGRAM WE NEED THIS INFORMATION IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF FUTURE PROGRAMS ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL THERE IS NO NEED TO SIGN YOUR NAME

1. DO YOU WATCH TELEVISION?

_____YES _____NO

2. HOW MANY HOURS PER DAY DO YOU WATCH TV?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____3 HOURS

_____2 HOURS _____MORE THAN 3 HOURS

3. HOW WOULD YOU RATE THE QUALITY OF THE TELEVISION PROGRAMS YOU PRESENTLY WATCH? (PLACE A CHECK MARK ON THE SCALE AT THE APPROPRIATE POINT)

VALUABLE _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : _____ : WORTHLESS
(+3) (+2) (+1) (0) (-1) (-2) (-3)

4. DO YOU HAVE ACCESS TO CABLE TV?

_____YES _____NO

5 DO YOU WATCH CHANNEL 10 ON THE CABLE?

_____YES _____NO

6 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU WATCH CABLE TV (CHANNEL 10) DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS/WEEK _____3 HOURS/WEEK

_____2 HOURS/WEEK _____MORE THAN 3 HOURS/WEEK

7 ARE YOU AWARE THAT COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WILL BE OFFERED ON ON CABLE TV (CHANNEL 10)?

_____YES _____NO

8 WHEN COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS ARE PRESENTED ON CABLE TV, WHAT TIME WOULD YOU PREFER TO WATCH (CHANNEL 10): (CHECK ONE)

_____8am-10am _____2pm-4pm

_____10am-12am _____other (DAYTIME)_____

_____12am-2pm

9. DO YOU SPEND ANY OF YOUR FREE TIME READING?

_____YES _____NO

10. WHAT DO YOU READ? (CHECK)

_____BOOKS _____NEWSPAPERS

_____MAGAZINES _____OTHERS_____

11. HOW DO YOU RATE READING AS ENTERTAINMENT? (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE POINT ON THE SCALE)

ENJOYABLE ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : BORING
(+3) (+2) (+1) (0) (-1) (-2) (-3)

12. HOW DO YOU RATE READING AS A MEANS OF SELF-EDUCATION? (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE POINT ON THE SCALE)

VALUABLE ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : WORTHLESS
(+3) (+2) (+1) (0) (-1) (-2) (-3)

13. SHOULD COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS BE OFFERED ONLY FOR COLLEGE CREDIT? (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE POINT ON THE SCALE)

CREDIT ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ : ____ :NON-CREDIT
(+3) (+2) (+1) (0) (-1) (-2) (-3)

14. ARE YOU ENROLLED IN THIS COURSE

_____AS AN ENJOYABLE PASTIME
_____TO OBTAIN A COLLEGE DEGREE
_____TO PREPARE YOURSELF FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY
_____AS TRAINING SO THAT YOU MAY EARN A SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME
_____OTHER (SPECIFY)_____

15 CHECK THE COURSE(S) YOU WOULD PARTICIPATE IN IF THEY ARE OFFERED NEXT SEMESTER

_____SMALL APPLIANCE REPAIR
_____BEGINNING BRIDGE
_____CREATIVE WRITING
_____KNITTING
_____CAKE DECORATING
_____ESTATE PLANNING
_____ARTS AND CRAFTS II
_____ARM CHAIR TRAVEL
_____TEACHER AID TRAINING
_____READING IMPROVEMENT
_____CURRENT EVENTS
_____OTHER (SPECIFY) _____

16 LIST THE MOST CONVENIENT TIME FOR YOU TO TAKE COURSES NEXT SEMESTER

	DAY OF WEEK	TIME OF DAY
1st	_____	_____
2nd	_____	_____
3rd	_____	_____

17 DO YOU ENGAGE IN ARTS & CRAFTS?

_____NO
_____AS A HOBBY
_____AS A MEANS OF SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME
_____AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY
_____OTHER_____

18 HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS PER WEEK
_____2-5 HOURS PER WEEK
_____6-10 HOURS PER WEEK
_____MORE THAN 10 HOURS PER WEEK

19 DO YOU CONSIDER COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES AS WORTHWHILE ENDEAVORS FOR RETIRED PERSONS?

_____YES _____NO

20 COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS SHOULD CONTAIN WHICH TYPE OF INFORMATION? (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE POINT ON THE SCALE)

SPECIFIC ____ (+3) ____ (+2) ____ (+1) ____ (0) ____ (-1) ____ (-2) ____ (-3) GENERAL

21 DO YOU KEEP ABREAST WITH WORLD-WIDE CURRENT EVENTS?

_____YES _____NO

22 ARE YOU AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS REGULARLY?

_____YES _____NO

23 IF YOU BELONG TO ANY COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION, HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT IN ACHIEVING ITS AIMS OR GOALS? (CHECK THE APPROPRIATE POINT ON THE SCALE)

EFFECTIVE ____ (+3) ____ (+2) ____ (+1) ____ (0) ____ (-1) ____ (-2) ____ (-3) INEFFECTIVE

APPENDIX 5

Senior Citizen Questionnaire

SENIOR CITIZENS QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTE: IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO EVALUATE AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS EDUCATION PROGRAM, WE ASK THAT YOU COMPLETE THESE QUESTIONS ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL THERE IS NO NEED TO SIGN YOUR NAME

1 SELECT THE THREE STATEMENTS WHICH MOST CLOSELY REPRESENT THE MAJOR BENEFITS YOU GAINED FROM TAKING THIS COURSE AND RANK THEM IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE (1, 2, 3):

_____EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT

_____EXHCANGING IDEAS WITH OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS

_____PREPARING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY

_____GAIN IN SKILL OR KNOWLEDGE

_____WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT

_____TRAINING TO EARN A SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME

_____OTHER: _____

2 COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS SHOULD BE OFFERED:

_____CREDIT ONLY

_____NON-CREDIT ONLY

_____STUDENT'S CHOICE OF CREDIT OR NON-CREDIT

3 IF SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES WERE ONLY OFFERED ON A CHARGE BASIS ($10 50/SEMESTER HOUR), WOULD YOU CONTINUE TAKING COURSES?

_____YES

_____NO

4 WAS THE TIME ALLOWED FOR YOUR COURSE ADEQUATE?

_____YES

_____NO

5 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU WATCH CHANNEL 10 (WEATHERFORD) CABLE TELEVISION DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NOT AVAILABLE

_____1 HOUR OR LESS

_____2 HOURS/WEEK

_____3 HOURS/WEEK

_____MORE THAN 3 HOURS/WEEK

6 DO YOU WATCH THE SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES THAT ARE PRESENTED ON CHANNEL 10? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

ALWAYS ------- FREQUENTLY ------- OCCASIONALLY -------NEVER -------

NOT AVAILABLE -------

7 HOW DO YOU RATE THE QUALITY OF THE GENERAL-VIEWING TELEVISION PROGRAMS AVAILABLE FROM THE COMMERCIAL NETWORKS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

VALUABEL ------- GOOD ------- FAIR -------POOR -------WORTHLESS

8 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU SPEND READING DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____4-5 HOURS

_____2-3 HOURS _____MORE THAN 5 HOURS

9 IS SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE FULFILLING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

COMPLETELY ------- MARGINALLY -------POORLY -------NOT AT ALL

10 PLEASE COMMENT ON AREAS THAT YOU FEEL SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE COULD IMPROVE ITS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM: _____

_____

_____

11 WHAT TYPE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS HOBBY DO YOU HAVE?

_____DO NOT HAVE A HOBBY _____POTTERY

_____WOODWORKING _____NEEDLEWORKING

_____PAINTING _____GARDENING

_____METALWORKING _____OTHER _____

12 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU SPEND ON ARTS AND CRAFTS DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NONE _____3-5 HOURS

_____1-2 HOURS _____MORE THAN 5 HOURS

13 WHAT TYPE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY DO YOU CONSIDER MOST APPROPRIATE FOR RETIRED PERSONS?

_____NONE _____WORKING WITH CHURCH GROUPS

_____WORKING WITH PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN _____WORKING WITH AGED

_____WORKING WITH HANDICAPPED CHILDREN _____WORKING WITH SCOUT GROUPS

14 HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES?

_____ 1 HOUR OR LESS _____ 6-10 HOURS

_____ 2-5 HOURS _____ MORE THAN 10 HOURS

15 ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS REGULARLY? IF SO, HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT IN ACHIEVING ITS AIMS OR GOALS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

I AM NOT A MEMBER -- EFFECTIVE -- GOOD -- FAIR -- MARGINAL --

INEFFECTIVE

16 CHECK THE THREE (3) COURSES YOU WOULD PARTICIPATE IN IF THEY ARE OFFERED NEXT SEMESTER

_____ ARTS AND CRAFTS II

_____ ARM CHAIR TRAVEL

_____ BEGINNING BRIDGE

_____ CAKE DECORATING

_____ ESTATE PLANNING

_____ VEGETABLE GARDENING

_____ WOODWORKING

_____ GOLF

_____ GROWING HOUSE PLANTS

_____ KNITTING

_____ LAWN AND SHRUB CARE

_____ PUBLIC AND/OR PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER AIDS

_____ READING FOR SPEED AND COMPREHENSION

17 PLEASE COMMENT ON YOUR OVERALL IMPRESSION OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS' EDUCATION PROGRAM AT SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE WHERE POSSIBLE, MENTION SPECIFIC STRENGTHS AND/OR WEAKNESSES YOU HAVE NOTICED.

_____

_____

_____

_____

APPENDIX 6

Senior Citizen Questionnaire

SENIOR CITIZENS QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTE: THESE QUESTIONS REPRESENT OUR REQUEST THAT YOU HELP US EVALUATE THIS PROGRAM. THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE WILL ASSIST IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF FUTURE PROGRAMS. ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL. THERE IS NO NEED TO SIGN YOUR NAME.

1. SELECT THE TWO STATEMENTS WHICH MOST CLOSELY REPRESENT THE REASON(S) YOU ENROLLED IN THIS COURSE AND RANK THEM IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE (1-2):

   _____EARN COLLEGE CREDIT

   _____TRAINING TO EARN A SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME

   _____LEARN A SKILL OR GAIN KNOWLEDGE

   _____PREPARE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY

   _____AS AN ENJOYABLE PASTIME

   _____OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS

   _____OTHERS _____

2. HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THE SENIOR CITIZENS EDUCATION PROGRAM?

   _____FROM AN ARTICLE IN THE NEWSPAPER

   _____TOLD BY A FRIEND

   _____DIRECT MAIL

   _____ANNOUNCEMENT IN A COMMUNITY GATHERING, SUCH AS CHURCH

   _____OTHER _____

3. IF SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES WERE ONLY OFFERED ON A CHARGE BASIS ($10.50/SEMESTER HOUR) WOULD YOU STILL TAKE A COURSE?

   _____YES _____NO

4. SHOULD COURSES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS BE OFFERED FOR CREDIT ONLY, NON-CREDIT ONLY, OR IN A MANNER THAT LEAVES THE CREDIT OPTION OPEN TO EACH STUDENT?

   _____CREDIT ONLY _____NON-CREDIT ONLY _____STUDENT'S CHOICE OR CREDIT OR NON-CREDIT

5 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU WATCH CHANNEL 10 (WEATHERFORD) CABLE TELEVISION DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NOT AVAILABLE _____3 HOURS/WEEK

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____MORE THAN 3 HOURS/WEEK

_____2 HOURS/WEEK

6 DO YOU WATCH THE SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES THAT ARE PRESENTED ON CHANNEL 10? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

ALWAYS --- FREQUENTLY --- OCCASIONALLY --- NEVER --- NOT AVAILABLE

7 HOW DO YOU RATE THE QUALITY OF THE GENERAL-VIEWING PROGRAMS SHOWN OVER THE COMMERICAL TV NETWORKS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

VALUABLE --- GOOD --- FAIR --- POOR --- WORTHLESS

8 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU SPEND READING DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____4-5 HOURS

_____2-3 HOURS _____MORE THAN 5 HOURS

9 HOW DO YOU RATE READING AS ENTERTAINMENT?

ENJOYABLE --- ADEQUATE --- MARGINAL --- POOR --- BORING

10 HOW DO YOU RATE READING AS A MEANS OF SELF-EDUCATION?

VALUABLE --- GOOD --- FAIR --- POOR --- WORTHLESS

11 WHAT TYPE OF ARTS AND CRAFTS HOBBY DO YOU HAVE?

_____DO NOT HAVE A HOBBY _____POTTERY

_____WOODWORKING _____NEEDLEWORKING

_____PAINTING _____GARDENING

_____METALWORKING _____OTHER _____

12 HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU SPEND ON ARTS AND CRAFTS DURING ALL AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NONE _____3-5 HOURS

_____1-2 HOURS _____MORE THAN 5 HOURS

13 WHAT TYPE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY DO YOU CONSIDER MOST APPROPRIATE FOR RETIRED PERSONS?

_____NONE

_____WORKING WITH THE HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

_____WORKING WITH PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

_____WORKING WITH CHURCH GROUP

_____WORKING WITH THE AGED

_____WORKING WITH SCOUT GROUPS

_____OTHER _____

14 HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____3-5 HOURS

_____2-5 HOURS _____MORE THAN 10 HOURS

15 ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS REGULARLY? IF SO, HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT IN ACHIEVING ITS AIMS OR GOALS?

I AM NOT A MEMBER -- EFFECTIVE -- GOOD -- FAIR -- MARGINAL --

INEFFECTIVE

16 IS SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE FULFILLING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS?

COMPLETELY --- ADEQUATELY --- MARGINALLY --- POORLY --- NOT AT ALL

17 IN WHAT AREA(S) COULD SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE IMPROVE ITS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM?

_____MORE COURSES

_____INVOLVEMENT OF GREATER NUMBER OF SENIOR CITIZENS

_____CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

_____OTHER _____

APPENDIX 7

Senior Citizen Questionnaire

SENIOR CITIZENS QUESTIONNAIRE

NOTE: IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO EVALUATE AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS EDUCATION PROGRAM, WE ASK THAT YOU COMPLETE THESE QUESTIONS--- ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL THERE IS NO NEED TO SIGN YOUR NAME.

1. SELECT THE STATEMENT WHICH MOST CLOSELY REPRESENT THE MAJOR BENEFIT YOU GAINED FROM TAKING THIS COURSE:

_____EARNED COLLEGE CREDIT

_____EXHANGING IDEAS WITH OTHER SENIOR CITIZENS

_____PREPARING FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY

_____GAIN IN SKILL OR KNOWLEDGE

_____WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT

_____TRAINING TO EARN A SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME

_____OTHER: _____

2. DID YOU USE THE MUSIC CONCERT TICKET THAT YOU WERE GIVEN?

_____YES _____NO

3. IF SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES WERE ONLY OFFERED ON A CHARGE BASIS ($10.50/SEMESTER HOUR), WOULD YOU CONTINUE TAKING COURSES?

_____YES _____NO

4. WAS THE TIME ALLOWED FOR YOUR COURSE ADEQUATE?

_____YES _____NO

5. HOW MANY HOURS DO YOU WATCH CHANNEL 10 (WEATHERFORD) CABLE TELEVISION DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NOT AVAILABLE _____3 HOURS/WEEK

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____MORE THAN 3 HOURS/WEEK

_____2 HOURS/WEEK

6. DO YOU WATCH THE SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES THAT ARE PRESENTED ON CHANNEL 10? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

ALWAYS --- FREQUENTLY --- OCCASIONALLY --- NEVER --- NOT AVAILABLE

7 HOW MANY HOURS TO YOU SPEND ON ARTS AND CRAFTS DURING AN AVERAGE WEEK?

_____NONE _____3-5 HOURS

_____1-2 HOURS _____MORE THAN 5 HOURS

8 WHAT TYPE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITY DO YOU CONSIDER MOST APPROPRIATE FOR RETIRED PERSONS?

_____NONE

_____WORKING WITH PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

_____WORKING WITH HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

_____WORKING WITH CHURCH GROUPS

_____WORKING WITH AGED

_____WORKING WITH SCOUT GROUPS

9 HOW MANY HOURS PER WEEK DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES?

_____1 HOUR OR LESS _____6-10 HOURS

_____2-5 HOURS _____MORE THAN 10 HOURS

10 ARE YOU A MEMBER OF A COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION THAT MEETS REGULARLY? IF SO, HOW EFFECTIVE IS IT IN ACHIEVING ITS AIMS OR GOALS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

I AM NOT A MEMBER -- EFFECTIVE -- GOOD -- FAIR -- MARGINAL --

INEFFECTIVE

11 HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING A STUDENT NOW, IN COMPARISON TO THE LAST TIME YOU WERE IN SCHOOL REGULARLY?

_____MUCH EASIER TO LEARN NOW

_____THE SAME AS BEFORE

_____MUCH HARDER TO LEARN NOW

12 HAS TAKING SENIOR CITIZENS' COURSES CHANGED YOUR LIFE IN ANY WAY?

_____YES _____NO

13 IF YES, IN WHAT WAY?

_____DEVELOPED FEELING OF SELF-RELIANCE

_____MET NEW FRIENDS TO SOCIALIZE WITH

_____PROVIDED THE SKILL OR KNOWLEDGE NEEDED TO SPONSOR YOUTH GROUP

14 IS SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE FULFILLING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS? (CIRCLE THE APPROPRIATE WORD)

COMPLETELY --- MARGINALLY --- POORLY --- NOT AT ALL

15 IN WHAT AREA(S) COULD SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE IMPROVE ITS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM?

_____GREATER VARIETY OF COURSES (SPECIFY) _____

_____MORE CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (SPECIFY) _____

_____INVOLVEMENT OF GREATER NUMBER OF SENIOR CITIZENS

_____OTHER _____

16 PLEASE COMMENT ON YOUR OVERALL IMPRESSION OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS' EDUCATION PROGRAM AT SOUTHWESTERN STATE COLLEGE WHERE POSSIBLE, MENTION SPECIFIC STRENGTHS AND/OR WEAKNESSES YOU HAVE NOTICED.

_____

_____

_____

_____

APPENDIX 8

Faculty Evaluation of

the Senior Citizens Education Program

FACULTY EVALUATION OF THE SENIOR CITIZEN EDUCATION PROGRAM

1. Rate the following statements in the order (1, 2, 3, etc.) in which they can closely represent what you believe as the purpose of the senior citizen education program at SWSC.

___Opportunity to earn college credit

___Training to earn a supplemental income

___Preparation for community service

___Entertainment - an enjoyable way to spend a few hours each week

___Opportunity to exchange ideas with other senior citizens

___Improve the image of the college

___Other

2. Should the senior citizen's courses only be offered on a credit basis?

_____Yes _____No

3. Should senior citizens be required to pay a tuition fee?

___Yes, the same as other students

___Yes, but at a lesser rate

___No

___Other

4. What do you consider the primary shortcoming of the present program?

___The variety of courses offered

___The time the courses are offered

___Not enough senior citizens' involvement

___Cultural activities (plays, concerts, etc.) should be included

___Publicity of the program

___Not enough involvement by the faculty and administration

___Other

5 Please briefly consent on the following areas:

a Strong points of the program

b Suggestions for improvement

c Overall effectiveness of program